



**Fw: Caller about Dimock PA**  
**Kenneth Rotert** to: Stephanie Flaharty

03/16/2012 02:44 PM

From: Kenneth Rotert/DC/USEPA/US  
To: Stephanie Flaharty/DC/USEPA/US@EPA

Stephanie,  
This is an e-mail exchange I had about Dimock. I don't know if this has relevance for the FOIA.  
Thanks  
Ken

----- Forwarded by Kenneth Rotert/DC/USEPA/US on 03/16/2012 02:43 PM -----

From: Chitra Kumar/DC/USEPA/US  
To: Kenneth Rotert/DC/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 01/11/2012 06:27 PM  
Subject: Re: Caller about Dimock PA

Ken,

Thanks for the email and follow up. This is indeed a HF issue. Glad you talked to Vicky because she knows more than we do at this point.

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Chitra Kumar  
US EPA - Drinking Water Protection Division  
Room 2160-G, EPA-East Building  
Phone: 202-564-2232

Kenneth Rotert

Vicky, I tried forwarding the original voice mail, b...

01/11/2012 05:32:42 PM

From: Kenneth Rotert/DC/USEPA/US  
To: Victoria Binetti/R3/USEPA/US@EPA  
Cc: Chitra Kumar/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Ann Codrington/DC/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 01/11/2012 05:32 PM  
Subject: Caller about Dimock PA

Vicky,  
I tried forwarding the original voice mail, but it didn't work. I sent it to Chitra Kumar (OGWDW team lead for hydraulic fracturing) and Ann Codrington (DWPD Division Director) with a short explanation of what we talked about, and that this was probably more of an FYI for them than anything else.

The woman's name is (b) (6). She said that she was calling to see if I know anything about their situation and what is being done to correct it. She said they have contaminated water and that the people have been without water for years. She said that EPA promised to deliver water and that then EPA backed off on that promise. In her message she said the situation is 'dire'. I have not worked on these issues, so I know little about them. I don't know why she called me.

This is the article I found:  
[http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-505245\\_162-57356971/pa-chief-to-epa-let-science-be-guide-in-dimock/](http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-505245_162-57356971/pa-chief-to-epa-let-science-be-guide-in-dimock/)  
Thanks  
Ken

Kenneth H. Rotert  
Acting Deputy Division Director



**Fw: Some recent inquiries - important!**  
**Kenneth Rotert** to: Stephanie Flaharty

03/16/2012 02:45 PM

From: Kenneth Rotert/DC/USEPA/US  
To: Stephanie Flaharty/DC/USEPA/US@EPA

Steph,  
This is an e-mail I sent to SRMD staff about Dimock.  
Thanks  
Ken

----- Forwarded by Kenneth Rotert/DC/USEPA/US on 03/16/2012 02:45 PM -----

From: Kenneth Rotert/DC/USEPA/US  
To: OW-OGWDW-SRMD-EVERYONE  
Cc: Sean Conley/DC/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 01/13/2012 09:53 AM  
Subject: Some recent inquiries - important!

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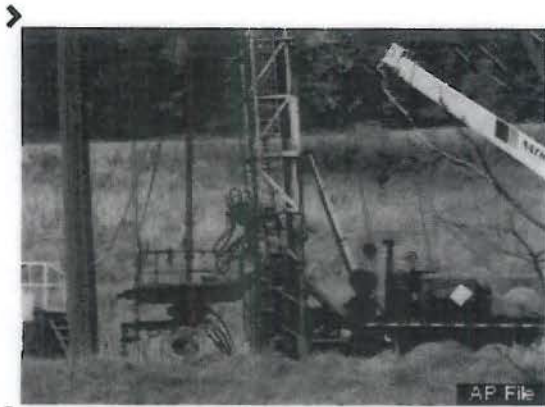
SRMD staff and managers,  
Some in the division have been getting calls about a water issue in a town called Dimock, Pennsylvania. If you get any calls related to this please let me know. This is being handled by the EPA press contacts in Region 3 and we need to let them know so they can handle it. So, if you get a voice mail please do not call them back and we will let the Region 3 press contact know. If you talk to the person directly please just get their contact information so Region 3 can call them back..

Thanks  
Ken

# EPA: Dimock, PA Water Quality Initial Test Results Revealed

AP MICHAEL RUBINKAM

First Posted: 03/15/2012 7:14 pm Updated: 03/16/2012 8:53 am



SCRANTON, Pa. (AP) — Federal environmental regulators said Thursday that well water testing at 11 homes in a northeastern Pennsylvania village where a gas driller was accused of polluting the aquifer failed to show elevated levels of contamination.

The Environmental Protection Agency, which is sampling well water at dozens of homes in Dimock, Susquehanna County, said initial test results "did not show levels of contamination that could present a health concern."

Dimock has been at the center of a fierce debate over the environmental and public health impacts of Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale drilling industry.

State environmental regulators had previously determined that Houston-based Cabot Oil & Gas Corp. contaminated the aquifer underneath homes along Carter Road in Dimock with explosive levels of methane gas. Residents who are suing Cabot assert their water is also polluted with drilling chemicals. Many other residents of Dimock say the water is clean, and that the plaintiffs are exaggerating problems with their wells to help their lawsuit.

The federal environmental agency began testing the water in January, more than a month after the state Department of Environmental Protection allowed Cabot to stop delivering replacement water to about a dozen families.

The EPA said water samples from six of the 11 homes for which it received initial test results showed sodium, methane, chromium or bacteria, but at levels that did not exceed primary or secondary drinking water standards. Arsenic was found in the well water of two homes, but at levels that did not present a health hazard, regulators said.



Of the 11 homes, EPA has been delivering fresh water to three homes where it said prior test results had showed alarming levels of contamination. EPA said it will continue supplying water to the homes "while we perform additional sampling to ensure that the drinking water quality at these homes remains consistent and acceptable for use over time."

Dimock resident Scott Ely, who is among the plaintiffs suing Cabot, disputed the EPA interpretation of his test results. He said the results showed a range of contaminants, including sodium and arsenic, that were at unsafe levels.

"We've had hundreds of tests done out here, and we've had so many different scientists say you have bad water here, there's not a doubt about it. And yet when the state and feds test our water, they say we can drink it," said Ely, who plans to meet with the EPA to review the test results. "Absolutely not."

Cabot said in a statement that it is pleased by the EPA test results, and that is "steadfastly committed to environmental stewardship, collaboration with state regulators, and compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws."